(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands and the action taken thereon so far; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra has forwarded a proposal for Grant/Credit/Loan from the World Bank for implementing Slum Sanitation Programme in Mumbai to this Ministry. The project called Slum Sanitation Programme (Stage-ll) envisages a time frame up to 2010 at the cost of Rs. 4800 millions. The Government of Maharashtra has sought a loan amount of Rs. 2665 million from the World Bank for this project.

The Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation forwarded the proposal of Government of Maharashtra for grant/credit/loan from the World Bank to the Department of Economic Affairs to pose the same before the World Bank. The Department of Economic Affairs has informed that the State of Maharashtra was categorized as "debt stressed" from debt sustainability point of view. Therefore, Department of Economic Affairs, in consultation with Department of Expenditure, did not accept the proposal for posing the same for World Bank financing. Maharashtra state was requested to include the Mumbai Slum Sanitation Project in the design of the comprehensive multi-sectoral plan proposed for Mumbai City for its transformation into a world-class city.

National Slum Development Programme

1926. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh requested the Central Government vide Letter No. 16863/UBS/2004 MA dated 24.1.2005 to increase the allotment to Andhra Pradesh under National Slum Development Programme and requested for the release of an additional amount of Rs. 50 crores in addition to existing allotment of Rs. 32.77 crores.

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After examining the request, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh was informed that the outlays under National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) are allocated in full to the States at the beginning of the financial year by the Planning Commission, Hence, allocation of the additional funds during the financial year may be difficult. The State Government was also informed about the enhanced allocations for 2004-05 from Rs. 32.77 crore to Rs. 65.81 crore under NSDP and release of entire enhanced allocated fund of Rs. 65.81 crore.

(c) Does not arise.

Preparations for Olympics

1927. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have made any assessment of the preparations/training being given to the athletes and players for the next Olympics Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by Centra! Government to get/win medals in commensurate with the size of the country?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The preparation/training of sportspersons for major international events, including the Olympic Games, is an ongoing process which takes into account inputs provided by the National Sports Federations. A systematic approach is adopted to the selection and training of sportpersons/teams for participation in the major international events by drawing up Long Term Development Programmes (LTDPs) with the help of former international sportspersons and sports scientists/experts to put in action a four year rolling Plan. Under this, sportspersons selected on the basis of their performance are put through scientifically designed continuous training. The LTDP is also subjected to annual review.